

Fellowship

PEACE INFORMATION EDITION

ONE ITEM WAS MISSING AT THE SUMMIT

Millions of words have been written and spoken about the abortive summit meeting at Paris last month, and millions more doubtless are still to come. Many of them will be devoted to proving that Mr. Khrushchev was more to blame than Mr. Eisenhower for the debacle; a substantial number will represent more or less non-partisan attempts to find out how and why our government bungled so badly in the U-2 incident and in other aspects of the pre-conference period.

One thing seems unlikely to be missed: the total absence from the summit and its preparations, on both sides, of concern for one another's welfare--the attitude that we try inadequately to define as "reconciliant" and even more inadequately as "love." Each side showed great concern for its own well-being, its own safety, its own leaders' prestige, but neither attempts seriously to understand or sympathize with the other side's anxieties and hopes there were few signs.

A reader wrote to a New York newspaper that had Gandhi been in Eisenhower's place he would have fasted to compel Khrushchev to stay and discuss. It is too simple a speculation. In the first place, a Gandhi would not have been in Eisenhower's place, President of a nation whose primary threat is in H-bombs and guided missiles.

Khrushchev could not have been Gandhi and could not have proved the pattern of military actions which the U-2 overflight was a part of. In the second place, if it is conceivable that he might have been there, he would not have fasted to coerce Khrushchev, but to express penitence for the part he and his own country had played in bringing about the crisis. And the very existence of such a spirit would have introduced changes in attitude that could have made the conference a dynamic experiment in peace-making instead of the sterile sparring-match that was the best expected of it.

Quote on the Summit

We sent an espionage plane deep into the Soviet Union just before the summit meeting. Then we denied it. Then we admitted it. And when Mr. Khrushchev gave the President an out by suggesting that he was not responsible for ordering the flight, the President proudly asserted that he was responsible.

On top of that we intimated that such espionage flights over Russia would continue. (At this point if Khrushchev did not protest he would be condoning our right to spy--and how long could he keep his job that way?) Next we evidently reconsidered and called off the espionage flights.

But, to compound the incredible, we postponed the announcement that the flights were terminated--just long enough to make it seem we were yielding to pressure, but too long to prevent Mr. Khrushchev from reaching the boiling point.

And, as if that wasn't enough, Sunday night when there was still a chance that de Gaulle and Macmillan could save the situation, we ordered a world-wide alert of our combat forces! Is it reasonable for suspicious Russians to think such a series of mistakes could only be a deliberate effort to break up a conference we never wanted anyway? --Adlai Stevenson, May 19

The power of the American presidency in the hands of a Gandhi free to
(Continued on next page)

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Box 271, Nyack, New York

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One Item Was Missing (*cont'd*)

act according to his conscience could set the world free from war, but America is not ready for a Gandhi and does not want one. A Gandhi would force us to look at our own sins, and we are much happier scrutinizing the Russians'.

As a nation, we are bound by fears and not by faith. Professing to loathe the Communists' dubious morality, we justify our own official lies by that morality. We cite the Communists' notorious disregard for individual human lives as warrant for building our own arsenals of germs and H-bombs. We even regard the growing productivity and standard of living of the Russians and Chinese as a threat, instead of rejoicing with them that millions of men and women bound for centuries by poverty are at last in sight of a measure of comfort and security.

Again and again, in history and our own lives, we have seen the power of open-handed compassion and friendliness, but still we let suspicion and threats rule our destinies, and in the name of freedom cage the world ever more closely in a prison of fear.

It will not do to lay the blame at the door of the White House or the gates of the Kremlin. The blame is in our unconcern for the rest of the world; our complacency about our own goodness. The peace is ours to win, not theirs.

National Council Takes Stand on Disarmament, Other Issues

Resolutions on a variety of urgent matters were discussed and adopted by the FOR National Council in its meetings in April. They included:

A message to the Consultative Peace Council urging continuation of the present cooperative program on disarmament.

A statement of support for the position taken by FOR member Willard Updegraff in refusing to turn over names of guests at a private summer camp to New Hampshire authorities, and an urgent request that he be extended clemency. (He has served five months of a one-year term.)

Letters to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Chairman Nikita Khrushchev endorsing the goal of total disarmament.

A statement of continued opposition to capital punishment, and a message to California authorities urging commutation for Caryl Chessman (since executed).

A message of support to Eroseanna Robinson, imprisoned as a result of refusal on conscientious grounds to pay taxes, and a similar message to Karl Meyer, ordered by Judge Walter LaBuy to be held for psychiatric examination for demonstrating in support of Miss Robinson. A copy of this statement and an accompanying letter went to Judge LaBuy protesting his action.

A letter to FOR members in South Africa to say that American FOR members "stand solidly with you in our common ministry of reconciliation." Some members of the South African FOR, including African National Congress President Albert Luthuli, are known to be under arrest.

The IFOR has urged all national FOR groups to recognize Hiroshima Day (Aug. 6) by missing a meal on that day. The Executive Committee of the American FOR decided in March to ask its members who take part in the fast to set aside money saved for the Japanese FOR. Contributions may be sent to J.M. Sayre, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N. J., announced last month that it has just discontinued compulsory ROTC.

NEWS from the peace front

Lunch counters were integrated in six department and variety stores in downtown Nashville, Tennessee, last month following four weeks of negotiations between merchants and Negro leaders. According to the agreement, Negroes were asked not to patronize lunch counters during the noon hour for the first few days, and newspapers agreed not to publicize the move.

Meanwhile, in Durham, North Carolina, the City Council approved a three-step lunch counter integration program drawn up last month by the Mayor's Committee on human relations. The plan calls for a waiting period, during which no sit-in demonstrations would be held, a period of controlled integration similar to the program now in effect in Nashville, and full integration when the new scheme is accepted by the public.

In both cities, it was nonviolent sit-in campaigns that persuaded store owners to engage in negotiations.

The Friends Peace Committee of the Philadelphia Meeting is seeking information from teachers and students who have refused to participate in Civil Defense drills. Write: John Schuster, Friends Peace Committee, 1520 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Rev. Lewis MacLachlan, former vice-president of the British FOR and former editor of *Reconciliation*, will be visiting the U. S. from July 3 to September 4. A full itinerary and list of speaking engagements is available from N. Sayre, IFOR, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y.

All prints of the film "Children of the A-Bomb" have been retired from circulation owing to their present poor condition. The film has been in virtually continuous use since first released in the U.S. in 1955.

A U.S. State Department request for \$400,000 to finance arms control studies was turned down for the second year by the House of Representatives in April.

Department officials told the House Committee "the most serious deficiency in the U.S. approach (to disarmament) has been the lack of adequate planning and studies..."

A total of 400 men, women and babies picketed the Women's House of Detention in New York City last month, protesting the imprisonment of 26 persons who refused to take shelter in the recent Civil Defense drill. Pickets included many who had not taken part in the drill itself.

Dr. Toho-hiko Kagawa, Japanese pacifist and Christian missionary, died on April 23 at his home in Tokyo, Japan, at the age of 71. In poor health for many years, he had been convalescing following an asthma attack suffered more than a year earlier during a lecture tour of Japan.

His last words whispered to friends at his bedside were a prayer for world peace and progress of Japanese Christianity.

Plans for starting a campaign to help finance the building of a new fire-proof hospital in Tokyo, as a memorial to Kagawa and his work, are currently under consideration by the Chicago West Suburban FOR group.

Thirty percent of the 1,000 teen-aged boys questioned in "depth" during a two-year survey voiced strong opinions against being drafted into the armed forces. The survey was conducted by the Boys clubs of America in one hundred communities.

The Burlington (N.J.) Friends Meeting, formerly the Yearly Meeting center for the Philadelphia area, needs to build up its attendance at worship and ultimately enlarge its membership. Interested persons may attend the Sunday service which begins at 10:30. The Meeting House is on High Street near Broad.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please allow 4 weeks—supply both old and new address.

300 Attend FOR Birthday Party in New York

The Fellowship's multiple birthday party, honoring A. J. Muste and John Nevin Sayre at their 75th birthdays and celebrating the 45th anniversary of the American FOR and the 25th of FELLOWSHIP, was a highly successful event. Some 300 members and friends attended at New York's Riverside Church on April 21. Both the guests of honor spoke, along with Norman Thomas, and Philadelphia's Singing City choir presented a brilliant half-hour program. National Chairman Charles Lawrence presided, and former National Chairman John Oliver Nelson served as toastmaster. A book of greetings from friends all over the world was given to each of the guests of honor.

LIT[📖]NOTES

"Why Didn't Somebody Tell Me?" a 32-page booklet discussing the problems a Christian faces in adjusting to military life and describing both the latter and alternatives open to conscientious objectors, is available for 25¢ from Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y. It is published by the General Commission on Chaplains and Armed Forces Personnel.

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"Cuba's Revolution: The First Year" by Carleton Beals presents a picture of the island country which

contrasts with that usually given in the U. S. press. Copies of this pamphlet, which originally appeared as an article in *The Christian Century*, are available at 10¢ each from: Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

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Reprints of a *Progressive* article, "The Case for Disarmament" by FOR Co-Secretary John M. Swomley Jr., are now available at 5¢ each from Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N.Y.

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More than 200 copies of the newly compiled *Bibliography of Books on War, Pacifism, Nonviolence and Related Studies* have been sold. Additional copies are now being mimeographed to meet a continuing demand. Price: 25¢ from FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 10. Beginning of 8-day walk from New York to New London, Conn., to protest polaris submarines. Sponsored by CNVA. Write: Brad Lyttle, CNVA, 158 Grand St., N. Y.

Aug. 2-7. Puidoux III Theological Conference at La Roche-Dieu, Bièvres near Paris, France. Theme: "The Lordship of Christ and our Present Society." Speakers: Prof. Dr. Hannes de Graaf of the Netherlands, Archbishop J. Kivimäki of Finland and John H. Yoder of the U.S. For information write: A.J. Muste Church Peace Mission, 475 Riverside Drive, N. Y. C.

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